

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS

REF : PAO LETTER NO.12

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

--ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE DAYS AFTER DEATH OF HER HUSBAND, MADAME CHIANG KAI-SHEK LEFT TAIPEI BY SPECIAL PLANE SEPTEMBER 17 FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT IN UNITED STATES WHERE SHE SPENT MUCH OF HER CHILDHOOD AND ATTENDED COLLEGE. ACCOMPANIED BY ENTOURAGE OF 17, INCLUDING MEDICAL PERSONNEL, SHE WAS SEEN OFF AT AIRPORT BY PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO, LATE PRESIDENT'S SON.

NO OFFICIAL INDICATION AS TO NATURE OF HER ILLNESS, WHERE SHE WOULD GO FOR TREATMENT OR WHEN SHE WOULD RETURN TAIWAN. IN EMOTIONAL FAREWELL WRITTEN MESSAGE WHICH BANNERLINED BY ALL PAPERS SHE EXPLAINED SHE POSTPONED REQUIRED MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR HERSELF DUE TO PRESIDENT CHIANG'S LONG ILLNESS. SHE REVIEWED TRAGEDIES OF DEATHS OF PRESIDENT CHIANG, HER BROTHERS, UNCLASSIFIED

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A SISTER AND A BROTHER-IN-LAW IN RECENT YEARS. SHE

THANKED PEOPLE FOR THEIR DISPLAY OF LOVE FOR PRESIDENT CHIANG DURING MOURNING PERIOD AND URGED THEM BE ALWAYS ALERT, ADDING THAT ONLY THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES CAN BE HELPED.

--IN A RARE INTERVIEW PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO QUOTED BY UPI SEPTEMBER 17 AS SAYING THE ROC HAS THE ABILITY TO MANUFACTURE NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUT WILL NEVER DO SO. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THE ROC NEITHER DESIRES NOR NEEDS AMERICAN TROOPS TO DEFEND TAIWAN. "WE HAVE STANDING TROOPS OF HALF A MILLION, BACKED UP BY 2.2 MILLION RESERVISTS. WE HAVE ADEQUATE MANPOWER TO DEFEND OURSELVES WITHOUT ASKING FOR THE HELP OF TROOPS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES...WE DO NOT NEED AMERICAN TROOPS TO FIGHT FOR US. WE WILL ONLY NEED MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES.

IT WAS NOT WISE FOR THE UNITED STATES TO SEND TROOPS TO FIGHT IN ASIA." HE TERMED SOUTHEAST ASIA DEBACLE A "TRAGEDY" BUT NOTED IT HAD STRENGTHENED IMPORTANCE OF NORTHEAST ASIA WHERE ROC, JAPAN AND ROK NOW "CONSTITUTE A CHAIN OF DEFENSE WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES."

--IN THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF EDITORIALS REVIEWING THE SITUATION FACING THE ROC, LARGEST-CIRCULATION UNITED DAILY NEWS (380,000) NOTED THAT "WE ARE NOW FACING A PERIOD OF HISTORIC TRANSFORMATION...THE OVERALL SITUATION AT PRESENT CAN BE INTERPRETED WITH A SINGLE TERM -- DETENTE." STATING THERE WAS LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR WAR DISRUPTING CURRENT BALANCE "UNLESS SOVIETS MISCALCULATE," PAPER ADDED: "U.S. POLICY IS AIMED AT MAINTAINING BALANCE OF POWER STATUS QUO. IT MIGHT BE FORCED TO FIGHT A WAR BUT IT MOST UNLIKELY U.S. WILL FIGHT AN ANTI-COMMUNIST WAR ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY. NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-PRC RELATIONS WOULD AFFECT US MOST DIRECTLY UNDER CURRENT OVERALL SITUATION. ALTHOUGH SPIRIT OF SO-CALLED NIXON-CHOU SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE IS UNLIKELY LEAD TO U.S. RECOGNITION OF PRC FOR TIME BEING, U.S. NEVERTHELESS WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW ITS COURSE FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH PRC. PRESIDENT FORD'S SCHEDULED VISIT TO CHINA MAINLAND IS AN INDICATION. THIS TENDENCY IS WHAT WE CANNOT BUT FACE SQUARELY..."

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--UNITED DAILY NEWS AND ECONOMIC DAILY NEWS REPORTED PLANS FOR UNITED DAILY NEWS' EXPANDED AIR EDITION FOR OVERSEAS CHINESE READERS. BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16 EDITION WILL EXPAND TO EIGHT PAGES TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY WITH INCREASED NEWS, FEATURES AND PHOTOS. MONDAY EDITION WILL REMAIN AT FOUR PAGES. PAPERS FOR ASIAN AND AUSTRALIAN READERS ARE PRINTED IN TAIPEI, WHILE THOSE FOR AMERICA,

EUROPE AND AFRICA ARE PHOTO-ENGRAVED IN SAN FRANCISCO.

(CHINA TIMES REPORTEDLY WILL PUBLISH ITS FIRST AIR EDITION OCTOBER 3 TO BECOME THE THIRD VERNACULAR PAPER PUBLISHING AIR EDITIONS FOR OVERSEAS READERS AFTER CENTRAL DAILY NEWS AND UNITED DAILY NEWS.)

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

--LIN HWAI-MIN, TOP MODERN TAIWAN DANCER, GAVE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL LECTURE ENTITLED "ALWIN NIKOLAIS: A DANCE MAGIC QYOHV BY SHOWING OF IMV-PROVIDED FILM "NIK - AN EXPERIENCE IN SIGHT AND SOUND" IN TAIPEI LINCOLN CENTER SEPTEMBER 16. PRESENTATION DREW MORE THAN 300 MAINLY UNIVERSITY-LEVEL VIEWERS WHO PACKED 230-SEAT AUDITORIUM. PROGRAM, SUPPORTED WITH OUTSTANDING PHOTO EXHIBIT ON LIN'S "CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATER," SERVED AS A FORERUNNER IN PUBLICITY FOR NIKOLAIS TROUPE PERFORMANCES IN TAIWAN NEXT SPRING. LIN, WHO STUDIED WITH MARTHA GRAHAM, WILL BE PROGRAMMED IN THREE BRANCH POSTS NEXT MONTH.

--VOLSPKR JERRY MECHLING IN SEVEN-DAY TAIWAN VISIT SCORED HIGHLY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALISTS AND GENERAL LECTURE AUDIENCES. IN INVITATION-ONLY SEMINAR AND TWO PUBLIC LECTURES (TAIPEI AND KAOHSIUNG) MECHLING DISCUSSED NEED FOR MORE PLANNING, ANALYSIS IN URBAN MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL. DREW ON PERSONAL EXPERIENCE NEW YORK CITY. IMPRESSIVE COMMAND FACTS, FIGURES AND SINCERITY OF MANNER ESTABLISHED GOOD AUDIENCE RAPPORT IN DISCUSSION COMMON PROBLEMS FACING U.S., TAIWAN. ALSO HELD SEPARATE SERIES MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT SPECIALISTS WHICH EXPECTED HAVE LONG-RANGE INFLUENCE AND POSSIBLE SALES U.S. POLLUTION UNCLASSIFIED

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